

FISCAL NOTE
SB 908 - HB 963

March 28, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Combines the Registry of Election Finance and the Tennessee Ethics Commission into the "Commission of Ethics and Election Finance." The current executive director of the Registry shall become the executive director of the Commission of Ethics and Election Finance and current staff of the Tennessee Ethics Commission shall continue to serve under the executive director of the newly created commission.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

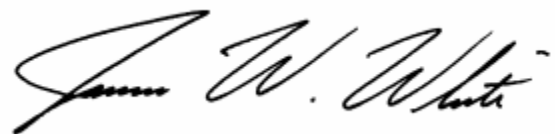
Increase State Expenditures – \$25,000 One-Time
Decrease State Expenditures - \$5,500 Recurring

Assumptions:

- No positions will be eliminated due to the merger of the Registry of Election Finance and the Tennessee Ethics Commission.
- Assumes no salaries will be changed due to the merger.
- One or both agencies may be required to move locations since current office space of either agency may be insufficient for a merged staff. Estimated one-time moving cost of \$15,000 to merge the two offices.
- The Ethics Commission currently has a lease which cannot be terminated at will and extends through December 28, 2007. This estimate assumes that the lease will be honored and offices will not be physically combined until after the expiration of the lease.
- This estimate assumes a one-time cost of \$10,000 which includes name changes to the Internet portal for lobbyist registration, printing costs to reflect name changes for the on-line payment of credit card fees and printing new disclosure of interest statements to reflect the Commission change of name and address.
- Training the Registry of Election Finance Commission on ethics law is estimated to be not significant and can be done with existing resources.
- A decrease in state expenditures of \$5,500 due to the elimination of the Ethics Commission members who will no longer be required to meet.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director